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ABSTRACT

Forty-seven (51.1 percent) of the 92 graduates of the Dental Hygiene program completed a questionnaire designed to provide feed-back information concerning activities of program graduates. Results indicated that: (1) Practically all graduates were employed as Dental Hygienists, with most sharing their time among two or more offices; (2) Daily salary averaged $75 to $90 depending upon length of employment and types of services rendered; (3) About half the graduates received a variety of fringe benefits, the most common being dental services; (4) Number of patients seen per day ranged from four to twenty, averaging about ten; (5) Most graduates participated in continuing education courses following their graduation, but many of these courses were brief one-day or conference type endeavors; (6) Most were employed only in general dental hygiene work--about 10 percent also worked in periodontic and pedodontic areas, with one each working in orthodontic, geriatric, and oral surgery clinic areas; (7) Over 90 percent performed the tasks of scaling-root planing, polishing, and plaque control--over 80 percent sharpened instruments, made bite-wing radiographs, or performed ultra-sonic scaling; (8) Most felt competent in the three tasks performed by over 90 percent of them--they felt least competent in certain types of X-ray work and curettage. (DC)

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LOS ANGELES CITY COLLEGE

# "FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF DENTAL HYGIENE GRADUATES, 1971-74"

Research Study #75-5

Ben K. Gold
Research Office
February, 1975

JC 750 137

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# "FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF DENTAL HYGIENE GRADUATES, 1971-74"

## PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

This study was undertaken at the request of Marilyn Bushman, Director of the L.A.C.C. Dental Hygiene Program, to provide feedback information concerning activities of program graduates.

## PROCEDURE OF THE STUDY

Four classes (1971, 1972, 1973, 1974) have graduated from the L.A.C.C. Dental Hygiene program. Each graduate was sent a questionnaire devised by the Dental Hygiene Department. 47 of the 92 graduates returned completed questionnaires, and at this point Ms. Bushman requested that the Research Office analyze the completed instruments and answer with available response data a series of questions she formulated. This study attempts to comply with that request.

## FINDINGS

The following tables summarize the completed questionnaires as closely as possible with the request from Ms. Bushman.

TABLE 1 - Total Number of Respondents to Dental Hygiene Questionnaire Sent to Graduates for the Years of 1971, 1972, 1973, and 1974

| Year of Graduation | No. of Graduates | No. of Respondents | % |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1971 | 22 | 7 | 31.8 |
| 1972 | 23 | 13 | 56.5 |
| 1973 | 23 | 12 | 52.2 |
| 1974 | 24 | 15 | 62.5 |
| Totals | 92 | 47 | 51.1 |

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TABLE 2 - Number of Dental Hygiene Graduates Employed in Fall, 1974

| | Year of Graduation from L.A.C.C. | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1971 | | 1972 | | 1973 | | 1974 | | TOTAL | |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Number of graduates responding | 7 | (14.9) | 13 | (27.7) | 12 | (25.6) | 15 | (31.9) | 47 | (100.0) |
| Number of graduates employed in Fall, 1974 | 6 | (85.7) | 12 | (92.3) | 12 | (100.0) | 14 | (93.3) | 44 | ( 93.7) |
| Reasons for not being employed | | | | | | | | | | |
| moved | 1 | | -- | | -- | | 1 | | 2 | |
| maternity | -- | | 1 | | -- | | -- | | 1 | |

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TABLE 3 - Number of Graduates Employed in Each Type of Practice and Number of Offices Where Work Was Performed

| Type of Practice | 1971 | | 1972 | | 1973 | | 1974 | | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. of Offices | Grads | No. of Offices | Grads | No. of Offices | Grads | No. of Offices | Grads | No. of Offices | Grads |
| General | 15 | 7 | 36 | 13 | 22 | 11 | 31 | 14 | 104 | 45 |
| Periodontic | -- | -- | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 4 |
| Pedodontic | 2 | 2 | -- | -- | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 5 |
| Orthodontic | 1 | 1 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 |
| Geriatric | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 | -- | -- | 1 | 1 |
| Oral Surgery Clinic | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| TOTAL | 18 | 10 | 37 | 14 | 30 | 16 | 34 | 17 | 119 | 57 |

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TABLE 4 - Salary Averages and Ranges for Dental Hygiene Graduates According to Length of Experience (Salary and Commission Rates)

| Year of Graduation | Total Length of Experience | No. of Grads | Salary* Per Day $ Ave | Salary* Per Day $ Range | No. of Grads | Commission* Per Day % Ave. | Commission* Per Day % Range | Total No. of Grads |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1971 | 0 - 11 months | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| | 12 - 23 mo. | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| | 24 - 35 mo. | 1 | 60 | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1 |
| | 36 + mo. | 4 | 92 | 68-120 | 2 | 65 | -- | 6 |
| Total in group | | 5 | 85 | 60-120 | 2 | 65 | -- | 7 |
| 1972 | 0 - 11 mo. | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| | 12 - 23 mo. | 2 | 80 | -- | 1 | 75 | -- | 3 |
| | 24 - 35 mo. | 4 | 84 | 75-95 | 6 | 68 | 65-75 | 10 |
| | 36 + mo. | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Total in group | | 6 | 83 | 75-95 | 7 | 69 | 65-75 | 13 |
| 1973 | 0 - 11 mo. | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 60 | -- | 1 |
| | 12 - 23 mo. | 9 | 81 | 70-100 | 2 | 64 | 63-65 | 11 |
| | 24 - 35 mo. | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| | 36 + mo. | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Total in group | | 9 | 81 | 70-100 | 3 | 63 | 60-65 | 12 |
| 1974 | 0 - 11 mo. | 11 | 74 | 60-90 | 4 | 64 | 60-68 | 15 |
| | 12 - 23 mo. | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| | 24 - 35 mo. | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| | 36 + mo. | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Total in group | | 11 | 74 | 60-90 | 4 | 64 | 60-68 | 15 |
| All years | 0 - 11 mo. | 11 | 74 | 60-90 | 5 | 63 | 60-68 | 16 |
| | 12 - 23 mo. | 11 | 81 | 70-100 | 3 | 68 | 63-75 | 14 |
| | 24 - 35 mo. | 5 | 79 | 60-95 | 6 | 68 | 65-75 | 11 |
| | 36 + mo. | 4 | 92 | 60-120 | 2 | 65 | -- | 6 |
| TOTAL | | 31 | 79 | 60-120 | 16 | 66 | 60-75 | 47 |

*Based on estimated averages earned at most recent place(s) of employment. Salary figure used (if known), other wise commission rate was used.

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TABLE 5 a. - Number of Fringe Benefits Received by Graduates

| No. of benefits received per Grad. (all practices) | 1971 | | 1972 | | 1973 | | 1974 | | All Years | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. of Grads* | Total Benefits | No. of Grads* | Total Benefits | No. of Grads* | Total Benefits | No. of Grads* | Total Benefits | No. of Grads* | Total Benefits |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 10 | 10 |
| 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 10 |
| 3 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 24 |
| 4 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 |
| Total | 4 | 9 | 7 | 14 | 7 | 11 | 6 | 14 | 24 | 48 |
| Total number of respondents in survey | 7 | | 13 | | 12 | | 15 | | 47 | |

*number of graduates who received one or more benefits in one or more offices

TABLE 5 b. - Kinds of Fringe Benefits Received by Graduates

| Kind of Benefit | 1971 No. of Benefits | 1972 No. of Benefits | 1973 No. of Benefits | 1974 No. of Benefits | All Years No. of Benefits |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dental service (all or part) | 6 (2)* | 2 (2)* | 3 (3)* | -- | 11 (7)* |
| Paid vacations | -- | -- | 3 (3) | 5 (3) | 8 (6) |
| Some continuing education | -- | 2 (1) | 1 (1) | 2 (2) | 5 (4) |
| Paid parking | -- | 4 (4) | -- | -- | 4 (4) |
| Christmas bonus | 2 (1) | 1 (1) | -- | -- | 3 (2) |
| Medical coverage/hlth. ins. | -- | -- | 1 (1) | 2 (2) | 3 (3) |
| Sick pay/leave | -- | -- | 1 (1) | 1 (1) | 2 (2) |
| Uniform allowance | -- | -- | 1 (1) | 1 (1) | 2 (2) |
| Profit sharing | 1 (1) | 1 (1) | -- | -- | 2 (2) |
| Lunch | -- | 1 (1) | -- | 1 (1) | 2 (2) |
| Family & relative discount | -- | 1 (1) | -- | -- | 1 (1) |
| Dental Assistants | -- | -- | 1 (1) | -- | 1 (1) |
| Pharmacy discount | -- | 1 (1) | -- | -- | 1 (1) |
| Hospital & malpractice ins. | -- | 1 (1) | -- | -- | 1 (1) |
| Life insurance | -- | -- | -- | 1 (1) | 1 (1) |
| Holiday pay | -- | -- | -- | 1 (1) | 1 (1) |
| Total number of benefits received | 9 (4) | 14 (7) | 11 (7) | 14 (6) | 48 (24) |

*number of graduates in parentheses; some received benefits in more than one office

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TABLE 6 - Average Salary Earned Per Hour by All Graduates*

| Average $ Earned Per Hour | Year of Graduation 1971 No. of Practices | 1972 No. of Practices | 1973 No. of Practices | 1974 No. of Practices | Total No. of Practices |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| $7.00 | 1 | -- | 1 | 6 | 8 |
| 9.00 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 17 |
| 11.00 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 17 |
| 13.00 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 12 |
| 15.00 | -- | -- | 2 | -- | 2 |
| 17.00 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 19.00 | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 |
| TOTAL | 9 | 13 | 14 | 21 | 57 |
| Average Hourly Salary Per Practice | $10.33 | $11.15 | $10.57 | $10.24 | $10.54 |
| Number of Respondents | 7 | 13 | 12 | 15 | 47 |

*Based on the estimated average salary (where salary figures were reported) for each graduate in each practice where employed.

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TABLE 7 - Estimated Average Number of Patients Seen Per Day

1971 - 1974

| Ave. No. of Patients Per Day | General | Pedodontics | Periodontics | Orthodontics | Geriatrics | Oral Surgery | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 |
| 7 | 2 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 2 |
| 8 | 12 | -- | 2 | -- | -- | -- | 14 |
| 9 | 23 | -- | 1 | -- | 1 | -- | 25 |
| 10 | 38 | -- | 2 | -- | -- | -- | 40 |
| 11 | 9 | -- | 2 | -- | -- | -- | 11 |
| 12 | 14 | -- | -- | 1 | -- | -- | 15 |
| 13 | 2 | 1 | -- | -- | -- | -- | 3 |
| 14 | 3 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 3 |
| 15 | 1 | 1 | -- | -- | -- | -- | 2 |
| 19 | -- | 1 | -- | -- | -- | -- | 1 |
| 20 | -- | 2 | -- | -- | -- | -- | 2 |
| Total No. of Practices | 104 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 119 |
| Ave. No. of Patients | 10 | 17 | 10 | 12 | 9 | 4 | 10 |

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TABLE 8 - Number of Patients Seen Per Day
Relationship of Salary and Number of Patients

| Year of Graduation | Average No. of Patients Seen Per Day | | | Average Salary Earned* Per Patient | | | Average Salary Earned* Per Day | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | General | Other | Total | General | Other | Total | General | Other | Total |
| 1971 | 10 | 14 | 11 | 8.39 | 4.11 | 7.31 | 83.90 | 57.54 | 80.41 |
| 1972 | 10 | -- | 10 | 8.35 | -- | 8.35 | 83.50 | -- | 83.50 |
| 1973 | 10 | 13 | 11 | 7.44 | 6.59 | 7.04 | 74.40 | 85.67 | 77.44 |
| 1974 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 7.16 | 8.91 | 7.51 | 71.60 | 98.01 | 75.10 |
| All Years | 10 | 13 | 11 | 7.85 | 6.62 | 7.49 | 78.50 | 86.06 | 82.39 |

*Based on estimated averages earned at all place(s) of employment.

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TABLE 9 - Continuing Education Courses Taken by Dental Hygiene Graduates

| General Subject Area | Name of Course or Specific Subject Area | No. of Grads for Each Year of Graduation | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974 | Total |
| PERIODONTICS | | | | | | |
| | "Periodontium & the Hygienist" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | "Periodontal Instrumentation for the D.H." | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | "Management of Perio Lesions for D.H." | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | "Expanded Duties in Perio for D.H." | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | "New Dimensions in Perio for D.H." | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | "Perio Courses for D.H. in G.P." | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | "Review of Perio & Instrumentation" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | "Perio and Diet Control" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | "Occlusion and Perio" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | Perio review | 1 | -- | -- | -- | |
| | Perio treatment | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | "Increased Dimensions in Perio for D.H." | -- | 2 | 2 | -- | |
| | Total | 1 | 7 | 7 | -- | 15 |
| PAIN | | | | | | |
| | "Aspects of Dental Pain" | -- | 3 | 1 | -- | |
| | "Aspects of Dental Pain-Cause & Control" | -- | 5 | -- | -- | |
| | Pain symposium | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | Total | -- | 8 | 2 | -- | 10 |

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TABLE 9 - Continuing Education Courses (cont.)

| General Subject Area | Name of Course or Specific Subject Area | No. of Grads for Each Year of Graduation 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| TECHNIQUES | "Sub-Gingival Curettage" | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | "Scaling With Grace" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | Curettage | -- | 1 | 1 | -- | |
| | Perio curettage | 1 | -- | -- | -- | |
| | Ultra-sonic | 2 | -- | -- | -- | |
| | Root planing | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | Pit & Fissure Sealants seminar | -- | -- | -- | 1 | |
| | Total | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 9 |
| DENTISTRY, DENTAL MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT | "Good Things Are Happening in Dentistry" | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | "Acupuncture in Dentistry" | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | "Restorative Dentistry" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | "How to Use the Cavitron" | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | "Special Cavitron Technique" | -- | -- | -- | 1 | |
| | Instrument Sharpening | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | Restorative Dental Materials | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | Total | -- | 5 | 1 | 1 | 7 |
| NUTRITION AND DIET | "Diet Revolution" | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | "Oral Tissues & Nutrition" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | Nutrition and diet | 1 | 2 | 2 | -- | |
| | Total | 1 | 3 | 3 | -- | 7 |
| ORAL PATHOLOGY & ORAL HEALTH | "Cellular Behavior of Oral Disease" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | "Oral Pathology & Cancer of the Mouth" | -- | -- | -- | 1 | |
| | "Oral Cancer" | -- | 2 | -- | -- | |
| | "Behavior of Disease" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | "Oral Health Evaluation" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | Total | -- | 2 | 3 | 1 | 6 |
| HEALTH | "Family Health" | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | "Community Health Service" | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | "Health Aspects of Drug Use" | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | Participation in Health Clinic at Conv. | 1 | -- | -- | -- | |
| | Total | 1 | 3 | -- | -- | 4 |

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TABLE 9 - Continuing Education Courses (cont.)

| General Subject Area | Name of Course or Specific Subject Area | No. of Grads for Each Year of Graduation 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| DENTAL HYGIENIST | | | | | | |
| | "Dental Hygienist" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | "Dental Utilization of the Hygienist" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | Review in Dental Hygiene | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | Total | -- | 1 | 2 | -- | 3 |
| PLAQUE | | | | | | |
| | "Plaque Control" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | "Plaque Formation" | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | "Plaque Research" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | Total | -- | 1 | 2 | -- | 3 |
| EMERGENCIES | | | | | | |
| | "Office Emergencies" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | "Medical-Dental Emergencies" | 1 | -- | -- | -- | |
| | "Emergency Procedures" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | Total | 1 | -- | 2 | -- | 3 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | | | | | | |
| | "Professional Woman's Role" | 1 | -- | -- | -- | |
| | "Equilibration" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | "Contact--First 4 Minutes" | -- | 1 | 1 | -- | |
| | "Hypnosis, Nitrous Oxide, etc." | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | "Your Tracks Need Retreading" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | "Your Tires Need Retraining" | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | "Prevention" | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | "Accident Prevention" | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | Pedodontics | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | T. A. Series | 1 | -- | -- | -- | |
| | Bio-Feedback seminar | -- | -- | -- | 1 | |
| | Office Management | -- | -- | 1 | -- | |
| | SCDHA Convention (all courses) | 1 | -- | -- | -- | |
| | SCDHA Convention (one course) | -- | 2 | -- | -- | |
| | Various lectures at 1974 Dental Convention | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | One hour talks at D.H. meetings | 1 | -- | -- | -- | |
| | Western Dental Society meetings | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | American Heart Association Lecture | -- | 1 | -- | -- | |
| | Total | 4 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 20 |
| | GRAND TOTAL | 11 | 41 | 31 | 4 | 87 |



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TABLE 10 - Functions Performed by Each Graduate in All Practices

| Dental Hygiene Functions | Year of Graduation 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974 | Total | % (100.0) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Medical-dental history | 3 | 12 | 10 | 5 | 30 | 63.8 |
| 2. Oral inspection | 5 | 10 | 12 | 9 | 36 | 76.6 |
| 3. Cytological smears | 1 | 1 | -- | 1 | 3 | 6.4 |
| 4. Bite-wing radiographs | 7 | 12 | 8 | 12 | 39 | 83.0 |
| 5. Full-series radiographs | 2 | 6 | 10 | 3 | 21 | 44.7 |
| 6. Other radiographs | 2 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 21 | 44.7 |
| 7. Dental charting | 4 | 12 | 11 | 8 | 35 | 74.4 |
| 8. Periodontal charting | 3 | 9 | 11 | 5 | 28 | 59.6 |
| 9. Impressions | -- | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 8.5 |
| 10. Study casts | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 8.5 |
| 11. Scaling-rootplaning | 7 | 13 | 12 | 15 | 47 | 100.0 |
| 12. Ultrasonic scaling | 3 | 12 | 11 | 12 | 38 | 80.9 |
| 13. Polishing | 7 | 12 | 12 | 15 | 46 | 97.9 |
| 14. Amalgam polishing | 1 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 17 | 36.2 |
| 15. Curettage | 4 | 6 | 7 | 6 | 23 | 48.9 |
| 16. Perio pack | -- | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 8.5 |
| 17. Sharpen instruments | 5 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 40 | 85.1 |
| 18. Fluoride treatment | 6 | 11 | 11 | 12 | 40 | 85.1 |
| 19. Desensitize teeth | 3 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 20 | 42.6 |
| 20. Topical anesthetic | 5 | 11 | 12 | 8 | 36 | 76.6 |
| 21. Plaque control - OPT | 6 | 12 | 12 | 14 | 44 | 93.6 |
| 22. Nutritional counseling | 4 | 9 | 7 | 7 | 27 | 57.5 |
| 23. Nitrous oxide | 2 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 11 | 23.4 |
| 24. Recall System | 2 | 10 | 10 | 7 | 29 | 61.7 |
| 25. Oral photography | -- | 1 | 1 | -- | 2 | 4.3 |
| 26. Appointment planning | 1 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 20 | 42.6 |
| 27. Office management | -- | 4 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 12.8 |
| 28. Expanded functions | -- | 2 | 4 | 1* | 7 | 14.9 |
| 29. Other | -- | -- | 2** | 1** | 3 | 6.4 |

*assist in surgery, etc.--perio
**suture removal; fissure sealant; community projects & place temps

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TABLE 11 - Areas in Which the Graduates Feel the Most Competent

| Dental Hygiene Functions | Year of Graduation 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Medical-dental history | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 |
| 2. Oral inspection | -- | 1 | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| 3. Cytological smears | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 4. Bite-wing radiographs | -- | 2 | 3 | 2 | 7 |
| 5. Full-series radiographs | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 |
| 6. Other radiographs | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 |
| 7. Dental charting | -- | 1 | 1 | -- | 2 |
| 8. Periodontal charting | -- | -- | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 9. Impressions | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 10. Study casts | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 11. Scaling-root planing | -- | 5 | 4 | 3 | 12 |
| 12. Ultrasonic scaling | -- | 2 | -- | 2 | 4 |
| 13. Polishing | 1 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 18 |
| 14. Amalgam polishing | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 |
| 15. Curettage | -- | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| 16. Perio pack | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 17. Sharpen instruments | -- | 1 | -- | 1 | 2 |
| 18. Fluoride treatment | -- | 1 | 4 | 1 | 6 |
| 19. Desensitize teeth | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 |
| 20. Topical anesthetic | -- | -- | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 21. Plaque control - OPT | 1 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 13 |
| 22. Nutritional counseling | -- | -- | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 23. Nitrous oxide | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 |
| 24. Recall System | -- | -- | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 25. Oral photography | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 |
| 26. Appointment planning | -- | -- | 1 | -- | 1 |
| 27. Office management (clerical skills) | 1 | -- | -- | -- | 1 |
| 28. Expanded functions | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 29. Other (see next page) | 6 | 13 | 26 | 14 | 59 |

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TABLE 11 - Areas of Competency (cont.)

| Dental Hygiene Functions | 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 29. Other | | | | | |
| Scaling (routine) | -- | 4 | 8 | 4 | 16 |
| Patient education | 2 | 3 | -- | 3 | 8 |
| Perio (practical exp., not training; slight; diagnosis of) | 1 | 2 | 3 | -- | 6 |
| Oral hygiene instruction | -- | -- | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| X-Rays | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 6 |
| Dealing with patients (motivation & patient psychology; patient mgmt.) | -- | -- | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| All | 2 | -- | -- | 1 | 3 |
| Oral pathology | -- | -- | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Caries detection | -- | 1 | -- | 1 | 2 |
| Prevention | -- | -- | 1 | -- | 1 |
| Basics | -- | 1 | -- | -- | 1 |
| Speed | -- | -- | 1 | -- | 1 |
| Ability to get along with office staff | -- | -- | 1 | -- | 1 |
| Use of cavitron | -- | -- | 1 | -- | 1 |
| Background was sufficient | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 |
| Unknown | -- | 1 | -- | -- | 1 |

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TABLE 12 - Areas in Which the Graduates Feel the least Competent

| Dental Hygiene Functions | Year of Graduation 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Medical-dental history | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 2. Oral inspection | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 3. Cytological smears | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| 4. Bite-wing radiographs | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 5. Full-series radiographs *(with bi-section tech.) | -- | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 |
| 6. Other radiographs *(apical; periapical) | -- | -- | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 7. Dental charting | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 8. Periodontal charting | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 9. Impressions | -- | 1 | 1 | 3 | 5 |
| 10. Study casts | -- | -- | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 11. Scaling-root planing | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 |
| 12. Ultrasonic scaling | -- | 1 | -- | -- | 1 |
| 13. Polishing | -- | -- | 1 | -- | 1 |
| 14. Amalgam polishing | 1 | 2 | -- | 2 | 5 |
| 15. Curettage *(soft tissue) | -- | 2 | 4 | 3 | 9 |
| 16. Perio pack | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 17. Sharpen instruments | -- | -- | 1 | -- | 1 |
| 18. Fluoride treatment | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 19. Desensitize teeth | -- | -- | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 20. Topical anesthetic | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 21. Plaque control - OPT | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 22. Nutritional counseling | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 6 |
| 23 *(how to incorporate in a prophy appointment) | | | | | |
| 23. Nitrous oxide | -- | -- | 1 | -- | 1 |
| 24. Recall System | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 25. Oral photography | -- | -- | 1 | -- | 1 |
| 26. Appointment planning | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 27. Office management | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| 28. Expanded functions | 1 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 11 |
| 29. Other (see next page) | 4 | 14 | 7 | 8 | 33 |
| None | 2 | -- | -- | 1 | 3 |

*Comments added by some graduates

(continued)

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TABLE 12 - Areas of Weakness (cont.)

| Dental Hygiene Functions | 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974 | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 29. Other | | | | | |
| X-Rays *(radiographic; rounting & reading radiographs; interpretation; interpretation in terms of perio condition; checking decay) | 1 | 3 | ? | 4 | 10 |
| Deep scaling *(in perio pockets; over 5mm.) | -- | 3 | ? | -- | 4 |
| Patient related *(motivating; interviewing; communication) | 1 | 2 | 1 | -- | 4 |
| General knowledge *(filling preparations used that DA's are familiar with by daily use; dental procedure including perio surgery) | 1 | -- | 2 | -- | 3 |
| Root planing *(in deep perio pocket) | 1 | 1 | 1 | -- | 3 |
| Perio *(packs; severe) | -- | 2 | -- | -- | 2 |
| Caries detection *(checking decay clinically) | -- | 2 | -- | -- | 2 |
| Injections | -- | 1 | -- | 1 | 2 |
| Speed | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 |
| Use of hoe and file | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 |
| Dental materials | -- | -- | -- | 1 | 1 |

* * * * * * * * * * *

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## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This study summarizes responses to a questionnaire sent to graduates of the Dental Hygiene program. All graduates of the program since its inception were included. 92 questionnaires were sent with 47 (51%) responding. The following observations are based on the responses of these 47 graduates:

(1) Practically all graduates are employed as Dental Hygienists, with most sharing their time among two or more offices.

(2) Although the form of the data reported makes precise figures difficult to determine, it appears that daily salary averages from about $75 to $90 depending upon length of employment and types of services rendered. For those who work on commission, about two thirds of the fees charged are retained by the Hygienist.

(3) About half of the graduates indicated they earned fringe benefits of a variety of kinds, the most common being dental services.

(4) Number of patients seen per day ranged from four to twenty, depending upon type of service, averaging about ten.

(5) Most graduates indicated they had participated in continuing education courses following their graduation, although it appears that many of these courses are brief one-day or conference type endeavors.

(6) Most graduates indicated they were employed only in general dental hygiene work; about 10% indicated they also worked in periodontic and pedodontic areas, with one each working in orthodontic, geriatric and oral surgery clinic areas.

(7) Graduates indicated over thirty different functions performed in their work. Over 90% indicated they performed the tasks of scaling-root planing, polishing and plaque control; over 80% indicated they sharpened instruments, gave fluoride treatments, made bite-wing radiographs, or performed ultrasonic scaling.

(8) Respondents indicated they felt most competent in the three area performed by over 90% of them; they felt least competent in certain types of X-ray work and curettage.

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LOS ANGELES CITY COLLEGE
Dental Hygiene Department
855 North Vermont Avenue
Los Angeles, CA. 90029
Telephone (213) 663-9141

September 1974

Dear Dental Hygiene Graduate:

In order to evaluate the Los Angeles City College Dental Hygiene Curriculum and plan for the future role of dental hygiene in California, would you please assist me by completing the enclosed survey. Please return it to me at Los Angeles City College, as soon as possible.

The Dental Hygiene Department has lost contact with many of you as you marry and also change addresses. Would you please keep us informed by sending us your name change and address.

Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Marilyn J. Bushman, RDH, MS

Survey of LACC Dental Hygiene Graduates

1. Year of graduation from LACC dental hygiene. _____

2. Are you presently employed as a hygienist? _____

3. If you are not employed in dental hygiene, please explain why not. _____

4. For each practice in which you have been employed, please fill in the requested information. For functions performed, fill in the number of the function on the attached list.

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| | Dates | Type of Practice | Functions Performed | Daily Salar. (%) | Fringe Benefits Received | Number Patients Per Day | Time Per Patient | Reason for Leaving This Office |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | | | | | | | | |
| 2. | | | | | | | | |
| 3. | | | | | | | | |
| 4. | | | | | | | | |
| 5. | | | | | | | | |
| 6. | | | | | | | | |
| 7. | | | | | | | | |
| 8. | | | | | | | | |
| 9. | | | | | | | | |
| 10. | | | | | | | | |

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5. List the continuing education courses you have taken._____

6. In what areas of dental hygiene do you feel most competent?_____

7. In what areas of dental hygiene do you feel less competent?_____

8. How can LACC dental hygiene be of further assistance to you? _____

9. Additional comments. _____

10. Name and address.



UNIVERSITY OF CALIF.
LOS ANGELES

MAR 07 1975

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JUNIOR COLLEGE
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